

Yukon River News Release



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2006 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release #23 **Announcement #18, District 4 and Innoko River Fishery Reminder** Districts Affected: Upper Yukon River

Subsistence fishing is currently open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in District 4 including the Koyukuk River drainage. **Commercial fishing** is open 5 days a week in Subdistrict **4-A** for the remainder of the season from 6:00 p.m. Tuesdays until 6:00 p.m. Sundays and concurrent with subsistence fishing.

The fall chum salmon run is now past the average three-quarter point in the lower river district with the bulk of the run now moving into the middle and upper Yukon River. There have been four significant pulses of fall chum that have entered the mouth of Yukon River. The first pulse of fall chum was estimated to be approximately 85,000 and should be crossing the US/Canada Border. The second pulse was estimated to be 268,000 and is spread between Tanana and Beaver. The third pulse was estimated to be approximately 128,000 and near Kaltag. The fourth pulse is currently passing the Pilot Station sonar and will likely be less than 100,000. The total run size is projected to range between 900,000 and 1 million fish. This is greater than the average historical run size. The coho salmon run is currently near average at the mid-point and is expected to continue near average for the season. The total Yukon River cumulative commercial harvest to date is approximately 108,000 fall chum and 34,000 coho salmon.

Subsistence fishermen are encouraged to fill out the subsistence salmon calendars that were provided to area households. Calendars are available from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Fairbanks.

For a recording of the current fishing schedule for your area call toll free 1-866-479-7387 (except Fairbanks) or 459-7387 (Fairbanks, only). If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Fairbanks office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at 459-7274.

This has been a report by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.